DATE: September 19, 2019

TO: Oregon Transportation Commission

FROM: Paul Mather
Interim Director

SUBJECT: Agenda X – Approve Recommended Safe Routes to School Rapid Response Infrastructure Project for City of Monroe

Requested Action:
Approve recommended project in the City of Monroe for $125,931.96 and for the reduced match of 20% as part of the Safe Routes to School Rapid Response Grant Program.

Background:
In March 2019, the Commission approved the recommendation process for the Safe Routes to School Rapid Response Grant Program, established in the Safe Routes to School Rule (OAR 737-025). This program funding, which was approved by the Commission in 2018, allows for up to 10% of the annual Safe Routes to School allocation of $10 million (increasing to $15 million in 2023) to be used for the Rapid Response Grant Program. For the 2019-2020 program cycle, the Rapid Response Program may allocate up to $1,833,333.33. Any remaining funds will roll into the 2021-2022 Safe Routes to School Competitive Grant Program. For reference, the next Competitive Grant cycle will be for 2021-2022 and the call for projects will open in the summer of 2020 for approximately $26 million in available funds. To allocate the Rapid Response Grant funds, ODOT accepts applications on a rolling basis for Safe Routes to School Projects that are urgent due to an unexpected opportunity or injury/fatality of a pedestrian or bicyclist and cannot wait for the next Safe Routes to School Competitive Grant cycle.

ODOT receives applications on a rolling basis, and a subcommittee of the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee (Attachment 1) reviews and recommends projects. This subcommittee assigned a quantitative score to the application using ODOT’s OTC-approved scoring criteria that prioritizes projects benefiting low income students (Title I schools), addressing high-risk safety issues, located near elementary and middle schools, and ones which were “shovel-ready.” The Rapid Response subcommittee takes this scoring into consideration as well as makes sure that the projects fully meet the urgent eligibility criteria.

Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee Recommended Project
In July 2019 the Rapid Response Subcommittee of the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended approval for the proposed project in the City of Monroe because of a recent documented crash and injury involving a student riding a bicycle to school. The City of Monroe requested $125,931.96 to build a walkway to connect students safely to Monroe Grade School and provide a safe alternative to walking along a dangerous highway.
Rapid Response Program Budget 2019-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Balance</th>
<th>Recommendation for City of Monroe</th>
<th>Remaining Balance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,833,333.33</td>
<td>$125,931.96</td>
<td>$1,707,401.37</td>
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**Match Reductions**

Per HB 2017 (Transportation Funding) and OAR 737-025, the OTC may approve a match reduction from 40 percent to 20 percent for projects:
- in a city with a population of 5,000 or fewer,
- along a Priority Safety Corridor,1 or
- that serve a Title I school.

This applicant meets the qualifications and staff recommends the Commission allow a reduced match of 20%.

**Attachments:**
- Attachment 1 – Rapid Response Subcommittee Roster

**Copies to:**
- Jerri Bohard
- Travis Brouwer
- Tom Fuller
- Cooper Brown
- Troy Costales
- Heidi Manlove
- Alan Thompson
- Amanda Pietz
- Susan Peithman
- LeeAnne Fergason

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1 “Priority Safety Corridor” is a project in an area with high-risk factors that are known to impact safety and which have not been mitigated. Conditions of a Priority Safety Corridor are defined in OAR 737-025 and include speed, width of the roadway, traffic volumes, and history of crashes.